was placed on the Table of the House on the 31st March, 1992. The salient features are:—

1. Trade has been made free except for Negative List of Imports and Negative List of Exports.
2. Regulation and control has been largely removed.
3. Thrust to export promotion.
4. Encouragement to manufacturer exporters to attain internationally accepted standards of quality for their products.

(b) and (c) All the required Notifications or Public Notices for the implementation of the EXIM Policy have been issued by the Commerce Ministry except for the following:—

(i) Special import licences for grant of incentives to certain categories of exporters.

(ii) Self-declared Pass Book Scheme for certain categories of exporters.

**Proposals to set up Independent Authority for Auditing Nationalised Banks**

*387. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an Independent authority to audit and monitor the operations of nationalised banks;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what exactly will be the powers and functions of the new audit authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up an Independent authority for audit of nationalised banks. However, in the light of the recommendations of the Narasimham Committee, it is proposed to set up, under the aegis of Reserve Bank of India, an independent agency for the supervision and control of the financial system, including the banking sector.

**Tourism task force cell in ITDC**

*388. Z. A. AHMAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3328 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th March, 1992 and State:

(a) when the promotion of tourism is the sole responsibility of State Governments as per Central Government, then how far the investment/action for identifying and developing new areas of tourism potential in the country through ITDC Task Force Cell is justified and desirable; and

(b) what has been the quantum of amount allocated by the Union Government to be spent through the ITDC Tourism Task Force for identifying and developing new areas of tourism potential in the country during 1991-92 and for 1992-93 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The India Tourism Development Corporation is one of the pioneering agencies with the Central Government for the identification, promotion and development of new areas of tourism. The Tourism Task Force, which is a division of the ITDC has been set up with the primary objective of promoting camping tourism, adventure tourism and tourism to new destinations.

No specific quantum of funds have been allocated for the Task Force and money is provided as per the requirements of specific projects.

**Irregularities in securities transactions**

*389. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleas to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State Bank of India was forced by interested